

*Weekly Report 01/16/2014 FOR **INTERNAL EPA USE ONLY***

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- Delaware/District of Columbia	Amie Howell	215-814-5722
- Maryland (Lead Liaison)	Linda Miller	215-814-2068
- Pennsylvania	Kinshasa Brown-Perry	215-814-3295
- West Virginia	Mark Ferrell	304-542-0231
- Virginia	Matt Colip	215-814-5439

Delaware

Regional Administrator to Address Delaware Wetlands Conference - On January 30, 2014, Regional Administrator Garvin will serve as a plenary speaker at the 2014 Delaware Wetlands Conference in Dover, Delaware. Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control Secretary O'Mara will provide welcoming remarks. Other concurrent sessions for the day include: GIS and mapping, monitoring and assessment, restoration, wetland biology, wetland modeling and planning and conservation. (Amie Howell, 215-814-5722)

Regional Administrator to Visit with Delaware Nature Society Executive Director - On January 30, 2014, Regional Administrator Garvin will participate in a courtesy visit with Delaware Nature Society (DNS) Executive Director, Brian Winslow, at the DuPont Environmental Education Center located along the Wilmington waterfront. Key topics of discussion may include Agency and DNS priorities, water quality in the Delaware and Chesapeake Bay Watersheds and climate change. (Amie Howell, 215-814-5722)

Regional Administrator, Senator Carper (D-DE) to Visit University of Delaware Lab - On January 24, 2014, Regional Administrator Garvin will join Senator Carper to visit the lab of Professor Richard Wool at the University of Delaware. Professor Wool recently received an EPA Green Chemistry Challenge Award. (Amie Howell, 215-814-5722)

Pennsylvania

EPA Deputy Administrator to Announce Grants - EPA Deputy Administrator, Bob Perciasepe, and the City of Philadelphia's Mayor Michael Nutter are scheduled to announce nearly \$5 million dollars in grants to five universities to study the performance and effectiveness of green infrastructure practices in urban areas. On January 21, 2014, Region III Regional Administrator, Shawn Garvin will provide the welcoming address and introductions for the press event located at the Philadelphia Water Works. The nearly \$5 million in funding is being provided through the Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, sponsored by the Office of Research and Development's National Center for Environmental Research (NCER). NCER's mission is to support high-quality research by the nation's leading scientists and engineers that will improve EPA's scientific basis for decisions on national environmental issues. Other notables which are schedule to provide remarks are Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), Nancy Sutley and EPA's Office of Research and Development (ORD) Associate Assistant Administrator Ramona Trovato. EPA is awarding grants to the following universities: Villanova University, Villanova, PA; Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA; Temple University, Ambler, PA; University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH and the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. (Kinshasa Brown-Perry, 215-814-5404)

Virginia

Governor McAuliffe Appoints Interim Agency Director for Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation: Governor McAuliffe has appointed Mr. Joe Elton to serve as the Interim Agency Director of Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation (VA DCR). Director Elton most recently served as the Division Director for VA DCR's State Parks Division. Director Elton is subject to confirmation by the Virginia General Assembly. (Matthew Colip, 215-814-5439)

2014 Session Update - General Assembly of Virginia: Virginia's General Assembly convened its Session on Wednesday, January 8, 2014. The 2014 Session will continue for 60-days, adjourning on Saturday, March 8, 2014. Several bills and resolutions were pre-filed that address the Commonwealth's environmental regulations or policy. These include, among others: 1) a joint resolution that requests the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VA DEQ) to study the toxicity of selenium to aquatic life; 2) a bill that eliminates the requirement that the Director of the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy submit a copy of the application for a discharge permit to the State Water Control Board for its review, and removes the authority of the State Water Control Board to object to the issuance of a discharge permit; 3) several bills which would delay the date that local governments have to assume responsibility for administering the Stormwater Management Program to July 1, 2015; and a bill that removes the requirement that a permit is required from the VA DEQ to transport hazardous waste. These bills, and others, will be tracked as the 2014 Session proceeds. (Matthew Colip, 215-814-5439)

West Virginia

Chemical Spill Contaminates Elk River Water Supply: Approximately 7,500 gallons of a coal-processing chemical leaked out of a tank at Freedom Industries and into the Elk River, contaminating the water supply for about 300,000 West Virginians served by West Virginia American Water Company in and around Charleston. The leak was first detected on Thursday, January 9, 2014, and EPA On-Scene Coordinators and the WV State Liaison Officer arrived at the spill site early Friday, January 10, 2014, and remain. (Mark Ferrell, 304-342-0231)

Senator Rockefeller Requests Study: Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) wrote jointly to EPA and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to request a collaborative and comprehensive study into the long-term public health risks associated with crude 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM), which leaked into the Elk River and contaminated the water supply for West Virginia American Water Company customers for days. (Mark Ferrell, 304-342-0231)

Representative Rahall to Schedule Field Hearing: Representative Nick Rahall (D-3WV) said on Tuesday, January 14, 2014, that as ranking member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee he intends to schedule a field hearing in Charleston, WV regarding the January 9, 2014, chemical spill that left 300,000 West Virginians without potable water service for several days. The committee has jurisdiction over emergency response, the Clean Water Act, and the Corps of Engineers. (Mark Ferrell, 304-342-0231)